

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 MC-02 EB-11

TRSE-00 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-20 IGA-02

OMB-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 L-03 USIE-00 /098 W

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O 121824 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2100

SECDEF NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 5440

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MASS LE

SUBJ: ARMS FOR LEBANON

1. DIRECTOR GENERAL OR PRESIDENCY (DIB) CALLED EMBOFF
URGENTLY EVENING MAY 12 ABOUT AFP REPORT FROM WASHINGTON. AFP
SAYS USG CONSIDERING SALE OF ARMS AND MUNITIONS TO LEBANESE ARMY
WHICH IN SHORT SUPPLY AFTER RECENT FIGHT WITH TERRORISTS. IN ORDER
AVOID EMBARRASSING GOL ARMS WOULD BE TRANSSHIPPED IN ATHENS OR
OTHER THIRD COUNTRY. AFP ALSO DISCUSSES USG TRAINING AND FMS
AID TO LEBANESE ARMY.
2. DIB POINTED OUT THIS REPORT VERY EMBARRASSING TO GOL, AS WAS
EARLIER PRESS REPORT (DENIED BY DEPT) RE REQUEST FOR USG MILITARY
INTERVENTION. HE ASKED US URGENTLY REQUEST DEPT ISSUE SOME SORT OF
CLARIFYING STATEMENT. GOL PLANS SAY IT NOT RPT NOT CONSIDERING
PURCHASE ANY ARMS AT PRESENT TIME.
3. COMMENT: SINCE THERE IS NO ACTUAL GOL ORDER FOR ARMS FROM
US SINCE MAY 1 ST PERHAPS DEPT OR DOD CAN ISSUE STATEMENT SUPPORTING
GOL POSITION AND SAYING THAT SINCE THE RECENT CRISIS WE HAVE
RECEIVED NO RPT NO ORDERS FOR ARMS OR AMMUNITION FROM GOL.
THE LESS SAID OR WRITTEN ABOUT USG - GOL MILITARY RELATIONS THESE
DAYS THE BETTER.

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
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